



Mound City High School

District: Mound City R-2

Enrollment: 141

Grade Range: 7-12



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The mission of Mound City R-2 is to accept each individual student and their own unique social and emotional, physical, and mental capabilities, to develop and nurture specific knowledge and skills in that individual, enhancing their present and future life.

Mound City High School is located in the community of Mound City in northwest Missouri, just east of the Nebraska border. It is the only public high school in the rural, one-building Mound City R-2 School District. This small high school houses 141 students in grades 7-12.

Celebrating Success Within and Outside the Classroom

Though Mound City High School is small, teachers and administrators work together for consistent excellence in all areas according to their resources. Using a curriculum aligned to the Show-Me Standards and designed to move students from mastery of basic skills to mastery of essential skills as a guideline, Mound City High School teachers create a culture of quality learning for all students. All teachers implement research-based instructional practices including team building, paired learning, cooperative learning performance events, multiple intelligences and hands-on learning.

At any given time, a visitor to Mound City High School might see math students building a geodesic dome out of straws and paper or language arts students using flour, vinegar, and baking powder to build a volcano after reading "The Dog of Pompeii." Technology enhances learning, helping to create a hands-on classroom where the teacher is the facilitator, and the student is the active participant. Cooperative learning and hands-on activities foster positive interaction among students. A bi-weekly enrichment program and daily seminar periods allow teachers to closely monitor student performance and provide assistance when necessary.

"BEST PRACTICE IN ACTION..."

- ***Daily reflection*** – Students devote the last few minutes of each class to answering the question, "What did you learn today?" This question allows both teachers and students to participate in a mini-evaluation process that uses today to make tomorrow better.
- ***Teacher-to-teacher observation*** – Four times each year, each Mound City High School teacher visits or is visited by a colleague

The high standards that Mound City High School promotes do not stop when the final bell rings at the end of the school day. The school views extracurricular activities as microcosms of society that prepare students to become productive citizens. Twenty-one activities offer students the opportunity to excel outside

the classroom. Students are willing participants; 98% of students in grades 9-12 are involved in at least one extracurricular activity. Students proudly represent Mound City High School as national competitors in FBLA, FCCLA, and FFA contests. The academic bowl team has emerged as state champion in four of the last eight years, and athletic teams have earned several district championships.

Mound City High School celebrates successes both within and outside the classroom. The school has received an “accredited” classification from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, as well as “Distinction in Performance” recognition. Hallways serve as display areas that testify to student success in both academic and co-curricular competitions, and plaques and certificates proclaiming MAP successes sit alongside athletic trophies.

“WORDS OF WISDOM”

- **“Rather than only ask ‘Can we afford to do this?’ our administrators also ask, ‘Can we afford NOT to do this?’ The application of those two questions makes all the difference in the world to our students.”**
- **“Not every student can be on the high honor roll, but we believe that every student can excel, given the right opportunity and the necessary encouragement.”**

Creating a Cohesive Learning Community

Mound City High School’s vision of helping students improve today for a better tomorrow provides the framework for building a cohesive learning community. The school’s mission is not tucked safely away in a policy manual; it is posted prominently in each classroom. Each teacher is a valued member of a learning community that is engaged in continual learning. Instructional leaders, both teacher leaders and administration, seek to improve skills while providing resources to promote sustained professional development. Each teacher receives release time for individually selected professional growth activities. Mound City’s professional development has produced consistent improvement and high achievement results. In the spring of 2003, Mound City was honored as one of six schools in the state to receive the Commissioner’s Award of Excellence in Professional Development.

Mound City’s teachers and staff lead with vision and follow with pride. Teachers and administrators accept leadership roles both at school and in the community, serving on school improvement, teachers’ association, and community action committees. They are consistently cited for outstanding leadership by their subject area peers.

Mound City High School continually strives to create a positive school environment, so important to nurturing the success of students; faculty and staff take pride in creating a fun, caring educational climate.